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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/960,368	09/24/2001	Helen Ann Biddiscombe	BIDD3001D/JDB	6339

23364 7590 03/28/2003

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

ZIRKER, DANIEL R

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1771

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AS7

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	Examiner		Group Art Unit

—Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ~3~ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/25/03.

This action is FINAL.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- | | | |
|--|----------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ | <u>13 - 36</u> | is/are pending in the application. |
| Of the above claim(s) _____ | | is/are withdrawn from consideration. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ | | is/are allowed. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ | <u>13 - 36</u> | is/are rejected. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ | | is/are objected to. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ | | are subject to restriction or election requirement |

Application Papers

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).

All Some* None of the:

Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received

in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary, PTO-413 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892 | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Office Action Summary

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1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. Claims 13-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO -742 taken either individually, or for claims 17-20 and 32 in view of Crighton et al. -601, and for claims 21-24, 27 and 33 in view of Carespodi, substantially for the reasons set forth in paragraph No. 5 of Paper No. 4, together with the following additional observations. Initially it is further noted that for claims 13-20, 25, 26, 28-32 and 34-36 it is noted that the Carespodi reference is also relied upon as evidence of the state of the art, with both it and WO -742 relating to very similar laminated structures employing polymeric films made from, e.g. oriented polypropylene. The Examiner further notes that with respect to the rejection based upon WO -742 taken individually, it is believed that curling resistance is either inherent in the reference films such as those shown at page 4, bottom paragraph or an obvious optimization to one of ordinary skill in this technologically sophisticated art, motivated by the laminated film art's desire to prevent harmful curling. With respect to applicant's remarks, his position (Response, page 7, top paragraph) that even if Carespodi is "only concerned with curl which arises when the laminate is subject to heat" would ^{not} eliminate the reference even if true. That is, it is again noted that both WO -742 and Carespodi relate to very

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similar laminated polymeric structures and that heat curl is clearly a major problem in the film art. With respect to applicant's contentions (Response, page 7, second and third complete paragraphs) that Carespodi "reduces curl in his laminate by applying identical layers on both sides of his base film to thereby create a balanced structure" ^{this} ignores the fact that applicant's claims read upon such a balanced structure. With respect to applicant's remarks (Response, paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8) that Carespodi does not disclose or suggest the specific range of ratios involving the thickness of the various layers the Examiner can only note that at most this is an obvious modification to one of ordinary skill in the art. Finally, applicant's remarks set forth (Response, page 8, bottom paragraph) involving his comparison are neither made against the closest prior art and also are believed to be what one of ordinary skill in the art would expect.

3. Claim 28 is again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 8 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,306,490B1. This is a double patenting rejection which applicant has not discussed or even mentioned in his response.

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

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policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The practice of automatically extending the shortened statutory period an additional month upon the filing of a timely first response to a final rejection has been discontinued by the Office. See 1021 TMOG 35.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Zirker whose telephone number is (703) 308-0031. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel Morris, can be

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reached on (703) 308-2414. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Dzirker:cdc

March 27, 2003

DANIEL ZIRKER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1300
1700

Daniel Zirker